

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

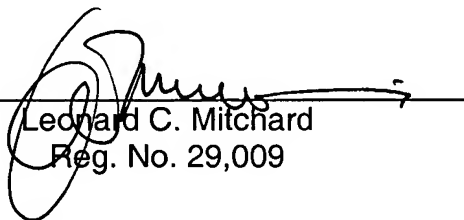
The above amendment has been made to include an Abstract of the Disclosure.

Applicants await an early action on the merits. If the Examiner finds this case is not now in condition for allowance and believes that an interview prior to first action would be helpful in focussing and/or resolving issues, applicants request the Examiner to contact their representative at the telephone number listed below to arrange a telephonic or personal interview.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method of generating a high level design of a distributed system test bed comprising the steps of defining a meta-model of the test bed; defining at least two architecture modelling elements within the meta-model to form an architecture model associated with the meta-model; defining at least one relationship between a pair of architecture modelling elements; defining properties associated with at least one of the architecture modeling elements; and storing the high level design in computer memory.